About World Soil Day

World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and advocating for the sustainable management of soil resources. An international day to celebrate Soil was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002.

Under the leadership of the Kingdom of Thailand and within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership, FAO has supported the formal establishment of WSD as a global awareness raising platform. The FAO Conference unanimously endorsed World Soil Day in June 2013 and requested its official adoption at the 68th UN General Assembly. In December 2013 the UN General Assembly responded by designating 5 December 2014 as the first official World Soil Day.

The Global Soil Partnership is dedicating World Soil Day 2017 to the theme Caring for the Planet starts from the Ground.

Soil, like air and water, is critical to life on earth. Soils are incredibly resilient, but they are also fragile and can easily be damaged or lost. Improved management of our planet’s limited soil resource is essential to ensure a sustainable future and guarantee healthy and productive soils for food security, as well as to support many essential ecosystem services that enable life on earth.

Caring for the planet and its environment means caring for its soils.

With 201 registered events and celebrations organized in 72 FAO member countries World Soil Day 2017 was a huge success. More people than ever took part in the celebrations, conveying the FAO message on the importance of soil quality for food security, healthy ecosystems and human well-being. Observances worldwide reach record high (35% increase) and registered great echo in the media and amazing results on social media. Conferences, seminars and workshops were among the most typical events. The opening of soil laboratories, soil painting competitions, soil experiments dedicated to children, spectacles, soil science fairs, quizzes and soil judging contests among the most innovative. Enthusiasm, involvement and soil awareness are indeed the keywords of this yearly appointment and show how the interest in soils is moving forward in the global and local agendas.

FAO maintains high its commitment to the Global Soil Partnership and co-organized 4 official World Soil Day events in New York (UN Secretariat), Rome (FAO headquarters), Nairobi (UN Environment) and Santiago de Chile (FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean).

The GSP Secretariat wishes to thank all its partners and the fast-growing soil community across the globe, especially WSD event organizers and participants from the oldest to the youngest, who constitute our fertile ground.
World Soil Day 2017

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Argentina

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Buenos Aires

organization
Representación de la Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) en la Argentina and Consorcios Regionales de Experimentación Agrícola (CREA), Asociación Argentina de la Ciencia del Suelo, Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA)

event
Proyecto educativo ‘Así son los suelos de mi país’

Photo courtesy of FAO Argentina
Argentina

city
Santiago del Estero

organization
Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA, Argentina), Facultad de Agronomía y Agroindustrias - Universidad Nacional de Santiago del Estero (FAYA-UNSE), Facultad de Ciencias Forestales - Universidad Nacional de Santiago del Estero (FCF-UNSE), Centro de Ingenieros Agrónomos de Santiago del Estero (CIASE), Asociación Argentina de la Ciencia del Suelo (AACS) Filial Nueva Comisión Directiva (NOA)

event
The Care of the Planet Begins with the Soil

Photo courtesy of INTA
Australia

City: Bentley WA

Organization: Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, SoilsWest, Soil Science Australia

Event: A World of Soil Information - Celebrating WA Development & Innovation

Photo courtesy of DPIRD
Austria

city
Vienna

organization
International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA), Local Committee Boku

event
World Soil Weekend

Photo courtesy of IFSA
Bangladesh

city
Dhaka, Rangpur, Kurigram

organization
Jointly by Practical Action Bangladesh and Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI) of Bangladesh

event
Seminar on Present Status and Future Prospects of Soil, Soil Care Award Ceremony, Rally, Farmers Dialogue and Radio Broadcast Ceremony

Photo courtesy of Practical Action Bangladesh
Bangladesh

City: Dhaka

Organization: Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI), Ministry of Agriculture

Event: World Soil Day 2017 Rally

Photo courtesy of SRDI
Benin

City: Parakou

Organization: University dé Parakou, Project “Protection et Réhabilitation des Sols” - ProSOL / GIZ

Event:
Célébration de la Journée Mondiale des Sols en Parakou avec les Étudiants

Photo courtesy of University of Parakou
Bhutan

city
Thimphu

organization
National Soil Services Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

event
Exhibition on Various Technologies of Soil Management

Photo courtesy of National Soil Services Centre
Brazil

city
Lavras

organization
Programa de Educação em Solos (PEDS), Universidade Federal de Lavras

event
Publicação oficial da coletânea de cartilhas “Conhecendo a Vida do Solo”

Photo courtesy of PEDS
Brazil

city
Curitiba, Paraná

organization
Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Engineering, Soil Science Postgraduate Programme of the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR)

event
First Soil Science Seminar at Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR)

Photo courtesy of UFPR
Brazil

city
Ariquemes, Rondônia

organization
Faculdade de Educação e Meio Ambiente (FAEMA)

event
I ExpoSóis

Photo courtesy of FAEMA
Brazil

city
Santo Antônio, Goiás

organization
Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa)

event
Semana Nacional de Ciência e Tecnologia

Photo courtesy of Embrapa
Canada

City: Vancouver

Organization: The Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science


Photo courtesy of University of British Columbia (UBC)
Chile

City
Copiapó

Organization
Universidad de Atacama (UDA)

Event
Conversatorio “El Cuidado de Atacama Comienza en el Suelo”

Photo courtesy of UDA
Chile

city
Santiago del Chile

organization
ONG Suelos Sustentable con apoyo de la Oficina regional por América Latina y el Caribe de la Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Ministerio de Agricultura (ODEPA, SAG, INDAP), Sociedad Chilena de la Ciencia del Suelo, Universidad de la Frontera

event
Seminario “El Cuidado del Planeta Comienza en el Suelo”

Photo courtesy of Suelo Sustentable
Costa Rica

City: Santa Ana

Organization: Grupo Aliado por los Suelos Costarricenses

Event: Celebración para el 5 de Diciembre, trabajo de campo

Photo courtesy of Misión Permanente de Costa Rica ante los organismos de la ONU-Roma
Cuba

city
Cienfuegos

organization
Departamento Provincial de Suelos, Ministerio de Agricultura (MINAG)

event
Jornada Científico - Técnica por el Día Mundial del Suelo “El Cuidado del Planeta Comienza en el Suelo”

Photo courtesy of MINAG
Ecuador

City: Quito

Organization: Unidad Educativa Educar 2000

Event: Concurso Mundial de Pintura Sobre el Suelo

Photo courtesy of Unidad Educativa Educar 2000
Ecuador

city
Palenque, Los Ríos

organization
Organizaciones Productoras de Maíz de la Zona de Palenque

event
Celebración del Día Mundial del Suelo, trabajo de campo

Photo courtesy of Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agropecuarias
France

city
Paris

organization
Comédie Nation, Sophie Accaoui

event
Spectacle Scientifique et Poétique sur le Ver de Terre

Photo courtesy of Sophie Accaoui
Georgia

city
Tbilisi

organization
Georgian Society of Soil Science, Michail Sabashvili Institute of Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Melioration

event
World Soil Day at Soil Museum

Photo courtesy of
Georgian Society of Soil Science
Georgia

city
Tsilkani, Mtskheta-Mtianeti
Region

organization
Scientific Research Center of Agriculture

event
Official Opening of the new Laboratory for Soil Research

Photo courtesy of
Scientific Research Centre of Agriculture
Germany

city
Dessau-Roßlau

organization
Commission for Soil Protection at the German Environment Agency

event
500 Years of Reformation - a Topic regarding Soil?

Photo courtesy of Umweltbundesamt
Guatemala

City
Guatemala

Organization
Facultad de Agronomía de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala (FAUSAC), Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación (MAGA) y Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN)

Event
Seminario Conmemorativo del Día Mundial del Suelo

Photo courtesy of FAUSAC
India

city
Attari, Punjab

organization
Rass - Krishi Vigyan Kendra

event
Workshop on Soil, Conference and Inauguration Ceremony

Photo courtesy of
RASS - Krishi Vigyan Kendra.
India

Shivamogga, Karnataka

Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (UAHS), Shivamogga

Guest lecture for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of UAHS
India

city
Sarsara, Bargarh, Odisha

organization
Department of Agriculture, Farmers Empowerment

event
Farmers World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Department of Agriculture
India

city
Tarn Taran, Punjab

organization
Krishi Vigyan Kendra

event
Conference for World Soil Day for the Youth

Photo courtesy of Krishi Vigyan Kendra
India

city
Chanegaon village of Barshi Taluka of Solapur district, Maharashtra

organization
Krishi Vigyan Kendra

event
Workshop for World Soil Day and Pre-Rabi Kisan Mela

Photo courtesy of Krishi Vigyan Kendra
India

city
Yamunanagar, Haryana

organization
Krishi Vigyan Kendra Damla

event
World Soil Health Day, Exhibition

Photo courtesy of
Krishi Vigyan Kendra Damla
India

City
Tal- Shirol, Kolhapur, Maharashtra

Organization
Archana Analytical Servises, Jaysingpur College

Event
Distribution of Soil Health Card to Farmers

Photo courtesy of Jaysingpur College.
India

city
Tirupati, Andra-Pradesh

organization
Farmers Group
“Chenchulakshmi Green Group”

event
Observation of World Soil Day on 05 December 2017, Celebration in the Field

Photo courtesy of Chenchulakshmi Green Group
India

city
Kozhikode, Kerala

organization
Department of Soil Survey and Soil Conservation

event
“Come Apologize for Polluting Earth and Soil” Hashtag Campaign

Photo courtesy of Department of Soil Survey
India

city
Bhopal

organization
Indian Institute of Soil Science (ICAR)

event
Celebration of World Soil Day on 5th December, 2017

Photo courtesy of ICAR
India

city
Kalyan, Maharashtra

organization
Sacred Heart School - Kalyan

event
Soil Fest: Exhibition and Workshop

Photo courtesy of Sacred Heart School
India

City
Mohol, Solapur district, Maharashtra

Organization
Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Event
Field Celebration of World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Krishi Vigyan Kendra
Indonesia

City
Bogor, West Java

Organization
Indonesian Center for Agricultural Land Resources Research and Development (ICALRD), Space Science Society (ISSS)

Event
Soil Judging Contest

Photo courtesy of ICALRD
Iran

City: Kermanshah Province

Organization: Soil Science Department, Razi University in cooperation with Soil Science Society of Iran

Event: Soil Drawings and Conference for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Razi University
Iran

City
Tehran

Organization
Joint event in Tehran with the collaboration of the Ministry of Agriculture Jahad of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Event
Celebration of World Soil Day 2017 in Iran

Photo courtesy of
FAO Representation in the I.R. of Iran
Iran

city
Ilam Province

organization
Agriculture-jahad organization Ilam, Ilam University

event
Seminar for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Ilam University
Iraq

city
Baghdad

organization
Department to Combat Desertification in collaboration with the Soil Department, College of Agriculture, Baghdad University

event
Seminar for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Ministry of Agriculture, Iraq
Italy

City
Rome

Organization
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Research Centre for Agriculture and Environment (CREA), Global Soil Partnership (GSP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Event
HeART and Soil: Lab for Children

Photo courtesy of GSP
Italy

city
Rome

organization
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Research Centre for Agriculture and Environment (CREA), Global Soil Partnership (GSP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

event
HeART and Soil - Art Exhibition and Scientific Conference

Photo courtesy of GSP
Italy

city
Torino

organization
Istituto per le Piante da Legno e l'Ambiente Ipla Spa (IPLA SPA), Legambiente

event
Giornata Mondiale del Suolo 2017

Photo courtesy of National Presidency of Legambiente Scientific Committee
Italy

City
Rome

Organization
Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Event
World Soil Day 2017 - Official Celebrations

Photo courtesy of GSP
Italy

city
Rome

organization
Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

event
Second Award of the Glinka World Soil Prize
World Soil Day 2017, Official Celebrations

Photo courtesy of GSP
Italy

city
Brindisi

organization
Global Service Centre and Supply Chain Service (UNGSC)
Environmental Technical Support Unit (ETSU)

event
World Soil Day 2017: Key contaminants representing environmental challenges in field missions; Various equipment to detect their concentration in soils; Hands-on low cost soil remediation technique for field missions

Photo courtesy of UNGSC
Italy

City
Rome

Organization
Research Centre for Agriculture and Environment (CREA)

Event
Launch of the Italian Translation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Sustainable Soil Management (VGSSM)
- Il Suolo al Servizio degli Ecosistemi - 42o Congresso Società Italiana Scienza del Suolo

Photo courtesy of CREA
Italy

city
Rome, FAO Headquarter

organization
Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

event
Facebook Photo contest on Black Soils “When Soils turn Black”

Photo courtesy of
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Kenya

city
Nairobi

organization
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment (UN Environment) at the third meeting of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 3)

event
World Soil Day 2017 - Official Celebrations

Photo courtesy of Thomas Hammond on behalf of FAO
Kiribati

city
Kiribati

organization
Pacific Community (SPC), Agriculture and Livestock Division

event
World Soil Day Celebration on Kiribati Atolls: Soil Workshops, Quizzes and Games

Photo courtesy of SPC
Lao PDR

city
Laos

organization
Department of Agricultural Land Management, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

event
World Soil Day 2017 and the Fifth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Department of Agricultural Land Management: Mini-marathon and Pétanque Competition

Photo courtesy of FAO Laos
Malaysia

city
Semenyih, Selangor

organization
University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus (UNMC)
Nature Club

event
Nature Club Soil Cake Workshop

Photo courtesy of UNMC
Micronesia

City: Yap
Organization: Cooperative Research and Extension, College of Micronesia FSM, Yap Campus
Event: How to dig a Soil Profile

Photo courtesy of College of Micronesia-FSM
Mongolia

city
Darkham-Uul

organization
Agroecology and Business School of the Mongolian University of Life Science

event
Soil Competition for Students

Photo courtesy of University of Life sciences
Mongolia

city
Ulaanbaatar

organization
Ministry of Food and Agriculture

event
Agricultural Soil Proper Use and Conservation Meeting

Photo courtesy of
Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Nepal

City
Kathmandu

Organization
Nepalese society of soil science, Soil science division, Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC) and Soil Management Directorate

Event
Soil Excursion and Soil Judging Competition

Photo courtesy of NARC
New Zealand

city
Hamilton

organization
New Zealand Society of Soil Science

event
WAI-BOP Soils 2017: Waikato-Bay of Plenty Regional Soils Conference for 5 December 2017

Photo courtesy of New Zealand Society of Soil Science
Nigeria

city
Ibadan

organization
Institute of Agricultural Research and Training

event
World Soil Day Celebrations

Photo courtesy of
Institute of Agricultural Research and Training of Nigeria
Nigeria

city
Nsukka

organization
Department of soil science, University of Nigeria

event
Caring for the Planet starts from the Ground

Photo courtesy of
University of Nigeria
Pakistan

City
Bihar

Organization
Soil Conservation Society of India, Bihar Chapter, the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Bihar Agricultural University

Event
Professional Soils and Environment Quiz 2017

Photo courtesy of Bihar Agricultural University
Peru

city
Tingo María

organization
Universidad Nacional Agraria de la Selva - Ingeniería en Conservación de Suelos y Agua

event
Exposición y Concurso de Dibujo y Pintura "El Cuidado del Planeta Comienza en el Suelo"

Photo courtesy of Universidad Nacional Agraria de la Selva
Peru

city
Lima

organization
Alumno de la Maestría de Suelos - UNALM La Molina

event
Field Trip for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of UNALM - La Molina
Philippines

city
Quezon City

organization
Agricultural Land Management & Evaluation Division (ALMED) Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) Soils Research and Development Center (SRDC)

event
Parade, Pledge of Commitment, Advocacy for Soils

Photo courtesy of BSWM
Poland

city
Krakow

organization
Soil Education Centre - Soil Museum, the Faculty of Forestry, the Faculty of Agriculture and Economics University of Agriculture in Krakow and Institute of Geography and Spatial Management Jagiellonian of the University in Kracow, Soil Science Society of Poland

event
SoilLAB and Museum Visit on World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Centrum Edukacji Gleboznawczej - Muzeum Gleb
Republic of Korea

city
Seoul

organization
Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI)

event
Seminar and Social Initiatives on World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of KEITI
Russia

City
Moscow

Organization
Lomonosov Moscow State University, World Bank, Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Event
World Soil Day 2017 celebrations

Photo courtesy of GSP
Russia

city
Moscow

organization
Lomonosov Moscow State University, World Bank, Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

event
World Soil Day 2017 celebrations

Photo courtesy of Lomonosov Moscow State University
Saudi Arabia

City
Riyadh

Organization
Prince Sultan University

Event
Conference and Soil Fair for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of
Prince Sultan University
Serbia

city
Belgrado

organization
UN Environment and Forestry and Environmental Action (FEA), with the support of Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Project office in Serbia

event
Serbian Science Festival

Photo courtesy of FEA
Serbia

city
Belgrado

organization
UN Environment and Forestry and Environmental Action (FEA), with the support of Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Project office in Serbia

event
Serbian Science Festival

Photo courtesy of FEA
Slovenia

city
Dunajska

organization
Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning

event
Slovenian Soil Partnership: World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of
Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor
South Africa

city
Arcadia, Pretoria

organization
Agricultural Research Council (ARC soil)

event
Soil Survey, Mapping and Interpretation over the Past 30 Global Soil Partnership Initiative: South African Contributions and Future Cooperation and Challenges of Wind Erosion in the Free State Province from an Agricultural Perspective

Photo courtesy of ARC soil
Spain

City
Santiago de Compostela, Galicia

Organization
IES Pontepedriña Secondary School

Event
Soil Painting Competition for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of IES Pontepedriña
Thailand

city
Bangkok

organization
Southeast Asia University (SAU) and CommDe Chulalongkorn University

event
“Soil, Our Soul”, Hi-Tech World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of SAU
Thailand

city
Bangkok

organization
Land Development Department (LDD), Soil and Fertilizer Society of Thailand, Soil and Water Society of Thailand

event
World Soil Day 2017 Thailand, Rak Lok Roem Chak Rak Din Su Kwam Yang-Yuen

Photo courtesy of LDD
Trinidad and Tobago

City
St. Augustine

Organization
Faculty of Food and Agriculture

Event
Soil Solutions: a Celebration of Soils, Art Performance and Seminar

Photo courtesy of Faculty of Food and Agriculture
Tunisia

city
Gammarth

organization
Ministère de l’Agriculture, des Ressources Hydraulique et de la Pêche, Direction des Ressources en Sol (DGACTA-MARHP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO)

event
Colloque Journée mondiale des Sols 2017

Photo courtesy of DGACTA-MARHP
United Arab Emirates

city
Dubai

organization
Dubai Municipality Environment Department

event
World Soil Day 2017 on the Beach

Photo courtesy of Dubai Municipality Environment Department
United Arab Emirates

city
Dubai

organization
International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), Dubai

event
World Soil Day 2017, Museum Visit and Soil Awareness Labs for Students

Photo courtesy of ICBA
United Kingdom

city
East Sussex

organization
Crossfields Institute

event
Soil: Ground of Existence - Encountering the Science, Art, and Sacredness of Soil

Photo courtesy of Crossfields Institute
United States of America

city
New York

organization
Cornell Soil Health Team

event
Soil Health Painting

Photo courtesy of Cornell University
United States of America

city
New York

organization
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), FAO Liaison Office in New York (LON)

event
World Soil Day 2017 - Official Celebrations

Photo courtesy of LON: FAO Liaison Office in New York
United States of America

city
Albion, Pennsylvania

organization
Northwestern Senior High School

event
Soil Painting Competition for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Northwestern Senior High School
United States of America

city
Springfield, Illinois

organization
Springfield School

event
Soil Painting Competition for World Soil Day 2017

Photo courtesy of Springfield School
Uruguay

city
Montevideo

organization
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Uruguay

event
Conmemoración del 5 de Diciembre, Día Mundial del Suelo

Photo courtesy of FAO Uruguay
Venezuela

city
Caracas

organization
Sociedad Venezolana de la Ciencia del Suelo, Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agropecuarias (INIA), Universidad Central de Venezuela (UCV), Universidad Nacional Rómulo Gallegos, Agropecuaria Punta Larga

event
Conferencia: Día Mundial del Suelo 2017

Photo courtesy of Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agrícolas
Vietnam

city
Mang Den, Kon tum

organization
Nguyen Duc Anh

event
Field Experience for World Soil Day 2017: Field trip, digging soil profiles and taking measurements

Photo courtesy of ©Nguyen Duc Anh
Why a Global Soil Partnership?

Soil is an essential resource and a vital part of the natural environment from which most of the global food is produced. At the same time, soil provides living space for humans, as well as essential ecosystem services which are important for water regulation and supply, climate regulation, biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration and cultural services.

Although the importance of soils seems clear, in the past it has not received due attention in terms of its use and management, since soils were often considered an infinite resource that will always be able to provide us with its ecosystem services. However, this is not the case and there is an urgent need to raise awareness on the importance of soil, especially the need to protect and use them sustainably as they are under pressure from increases in population, higher demands for food and competing land uses.

The Global Soil Partnership was established in December 2012 as a mechanism to develop a strong interactive cooperation and enhanced collaboration and synergy of efforts between all stakeholders. From land users through to policy makers, one of the key objectives of the GSP is to improve the governance and promote sustainable management of soils.

Key outputs demonstrate that the partnership was needed to fill an existing gap in the promotion of sustainable soil management. In few years crucial publications were launched, ranging from the preparation of the revised World Soil Charter, to the production of the Status of the World’s Soil Resources. Another key publication, the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management (VGSSM), which provide technical and policy recommendations on how sustainable soil management can be achieved, were endorsed by the 155th session of the FAO Council (Rome, 5 December 2016).

In 2016 - 2017 GSP succeeded with the establishment of the Global Soil Information System (GLOSIS) and its associated outcomes, such as the Global Soil Organic Carbon Map (GSOCmap) and the delivery of a Digital Soil Mapping capacity building programme. Developed through a completely innovative participatory process involving more than 110 countries, this breakthrough in soil mapping and digital collaboration estimates the soil carbon sequestration potentials through modelling and the vulnerability of soil functions under climate change using Soil Organic carbon (SOC) as an indicator.

Released for World Soil Day, 5 December 2017 the GSOC map was one of the main outcomes of the Global Symposium on Soil Organic Carbon (GSOC17), held from 21 to 23 March 2017 in FAO headquarters. Attended by over 450 technical participants from 111 countries, it confirmed GSP proven track record of success in raising awareness and building capacities on best available science; facilitating the exchange of knowledge and technologies among stakeholders for the sustainable management and use of soil resources; and setting global standards and guidelines.

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